



Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A support for a predetermined container having a rim at its top opening, the support comprising a structure having a supporting ring constructed to interfit with the rim of the container, wherein a ~~free-ended~~ flexible finger-suspender[[,]] is integrated with the structure and is deflectable from its formed position to an upstanding position in which it is capable of carrying weight of the container.
2. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 in which the ~~finger~~-suspender extends as an elongated cantilever from a root region located adjacent the supporting ring.
3. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 2 in which the supporting ring is constructed to interfit with the ring of A support for a predetermined wide mouth container having a rim at its top opening, the support comprising a structure having a supporting ring constructed to interfit with the rim of the container, wherein a suspending element flexible along its length is integrated with the structure, the suspender being deflectable from its formed position to an upstanding position in which it is capable of carrying weight of the container.
4. (Previously Presented) The support of claim 1, 2 or 3 in which the suspender is of sheet form.
5. (Previously Presented) The support of claim 3 comprising a molded unit.

6. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 3 wherein the suspender extends from a flexible root region located adjacent the support ring.[[.]]

7. (Currently Amended) The A container support of claim 2 in which the suspender comprises ~~comprising~~ an elongated flexible suspender ~~for the container~~ constructed and arranged to provide offset lift ~~offset~~ to impart a substantial tilt to the container when the container is supported by the suspender.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1, 2 or 3 in which suspender in its formed position lies parallel with and along or between limiting planes of said supporting ring.

10. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 2 in which the suspender is a A free- ~~ended finger suspender associated with a support ring for a container, the~~ finger suspender having an axis of elongation and comprising at least a flexible root region of relatively short extent along said axis of elongation, a main body of substantially greater extent along said axis, and a terminal end shaped to receive a supporting finger.

11. (Currently Amended) The support ~~finger suspender~~ of claim 10, in which said main body comprises an elongated leg portion, the terminal end comprising a head defining a finger engageable formation.

12. (Currently Amended) The support ~~finger suspender~~ of claim 11, in which said leg portion is of lesser lateral extent than said root portion and the finger engageable formation.

13. (Currently Amended) The support ~~finger suspender~~ of claim 11, the ~~finger~~ suspender being of sheet form and said finger engageable formation comprising an opening in the distal end of said suspender sized to receive a finger.

14. (Currently Amended) The support ~~finger suspender~~ of claim 11 in which the suspender is molded monolithically with the ~~[[a ]]supporting ring adapted to engage a mouth of a container.~~

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) The support ~~finger suspender~~ of claim 14 ~~[[or 15 ]]~~in which the supporting ring is part of an overcap.

17. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 in which the A ~~suspending structure for a container comprising a supporting ring has having~~ an axis of symmetry and the suspender is an elongated, flexible suspender joined to said ring asymmetrically with respect to said ring in manner to cause the container supported by said ring to hang at an angle.

18. (Currently Amended) The support ~~suspending structure~~ of claim 17, in which said flexible suspender is secured to said ring at a single root region.

19. (Currently Amended) The support ~~suspending structure~~ of claim 17 in which said flexible suspender is secured to said ring at a plurality of spaced apart root regions.

20. (Currently Amended) The support ~~suspending structure~~ of claim 19 in which said flexible suspender is a finger suspender.

21. (Currently Amended) The support ~~suspending structure~~ of claim 19 in which said flexible suspender is a flexible bail.

22. (Currently Amended) The support ~~finger suspender~~ of claim 1 or 20 in which the suspender defines at least two finger engageable formations, a first of said formations being spaced closer to the base root of the suspender than a second of said formations.

23. (Withdrawn) A support for a container comprising two flexible finger suspenders integrated with an overcap, the ends of the suspenders having a range of movement that enables them to be engaged and supported together by a finger.

24. (Withdrawn) The support of claim 23 wherein, in its as-formed position, the flexible finger suspenders lie in a plane in nested fusion.

25. (Withdrawn) The support of claims 23 comprising a pair of finger suspenders formed within a rim, the axes of extension of the suspenders being curved, the finger engageable formations of the suspenders being aligned on a first diameter and root bases of said suspenders lying on a second diameter that forms a substantial angle with the first diameter.

26. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 ~~or 25~~ in which said finger suspender ~~is or suspenders are~~ at least two inches long ~~from and including a root region and a finger engageable region.~~

27. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 ~~[[or ]]~~ in which the finger suspender ~~has or suspenders are~~ at least as long as half of the minimum transverse dimension of the mouth of said container with which the support is adapted to fit, preferably having a length exceeding the radius or one half the lateral dimension of the supporting ring rim ~~of the container, in many preferred embodiments the length being about three fourths of that dimension or more.~~

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 ~~any of the foregoing claims~~, in which the ~~lid or~~ supporting ring is constructed to have a snap fit relationship to the container.

30. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 ~~any of the claims 1-25~~ in which the ~~lid or~~ supporting ring has a friction fit with a rim of the container.

31. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 ~~of any of the foregoing claims~~ adapted to be interfit with another support of like construction, each suspender being free-ended and having a head defining an opening, the head of one of said suspenders constructed to be threaded through the opening of the other of said suspenders to enable containers carrying said supports to be strung together.

32. (Previously Presented) The support of claim 31, in which the opening includes a slot that provides an enlargement in one orientation sized to pass the aligned head of another such suspender.

33. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 ~~any of the foregoing claims~~ in which the ~~lid or~~ supporting ring has an opening in its center region for viewing the contents of the container.

34. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 33 in which a clear plastic film or sheet forms a seal with the mouth of the container or forms a seal with a rim of the ~~[[lid]]~~ or ring.

35. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 ~~any of the foregoing claims~~ including a heat shrunk band of plastic engaged about the exterior of the joint between the ~~lid or~~ supporting ring and the container.

36. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 ~~any of the foregoing claims~~ associated with a clear film, foil or opaque cover arranged to seal the container.

37. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 ~~any of the foregoing claims~~ in which the ~~lid or~~ supporting ring includes a preformed closure element insert ~~(C1, C2, Figs. 8, 9).~~

38. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 36 in which said closure insert ~~(C1, C2)~~ is larger in diameter than the opening of the mouth of the container and arranged to be compressed against the mouth of the container to form a seal.

39. (Currently Amended) The support of claims 37 or 38 in which said closure element insert ~~[(C2)]~~ is joined with ~~as part of the lid or~~ ring.

40. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 37 in which said closure element insert is joined to the underside of a rim of said ~~lid or~~ ring.

41. (Currently Amended) The support of claim ~~40~~ [[39]] in which said closure element insert is adhesively joined to said underside of said ~~lid or~~ ring.

42. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 37 ~~any of the claims 37-41~~ in which said closure element is snap fit with respect to a support flange ~~(F, Fig. 9)~~ molded on the inside of the ~~a skirt or~~ ring.

43. (Withdrawn) In combination, a package comprising:

a container of greater than 5 cm (two inches) minimum horizontal dimension at its mouth which is closed at least in part by a removable lid or a supporting ring, the container having an upstanding wall, extending from a bottom to a wide mouth at the top of the container, the mouth being about as wide as the maximum horizontal cross-section of the container, the wide mouth defined by a relatively thick rim formation, and the lid or supporting ring having a rim portion extending over and removably engaged with the rim formation to form at least part of an attachment of the lid or supporting ring to the container, said lid or supporting ring of the container and its attachment being constructed to support the container and its contents; and

a flexible suspender extending from the lid or supporting ring and arranged to be engaged by a support element such as a rod or hook of a product display, the suspender having a length of about 2 inches or more, such that when engaged by said support element, the container having a tilt angle.

44. (Withdrawn) In combination, a disposable package with consumable contents formed with the support of any of the foregoing claims 1-42 and a said container, or the combination of claim 43, wherein the container is of greater than 5 cm (2 inches) minimum horizontal dimension at its mouth, the container mouth engaged by the removable lid or supporting ring, as by snap fit, and the suspender being constructed and arranged to enable the container to be suspended by its lid for display and transport by the finger of a hand.

45. (Withdrawn) The disposable package with consumable contents of claim 44 wherein the contents comprise food such as dried soups, cereals, spices, grains, legumes, dried fruits, cookies, crackers, coffee in bean or ground form, nuts, snacks, popcorn, candy, yogurt, ice cream, butter, frozen juice concentrate, cheese dips and condiments.

46. (Withdrawn) The disposable package with consumable contents of claim 44 wherein the contents comprise tennis balls.

47. (Withdrawn) The disposable package with consumable contents of claim 44 wherein the contents comprise wrapped chocolate truffles.

48. (Withdrawn) The disposable package with consumable contents of claim 44 wherein the container is of thermally insulated construction and the contents comprise hot or cold contents such as hot soup, hot coffee, cold drinks, ready-to-eat foods, ice cream or yogurt in single servings or larger quantities.

49. (Withdrawn) The disposable package with consumable contents of claim 44 wherein the contents comprise hardware supplies or light bulbs.

50. (Withdrawn) The disposable package with consumable contents of any of the claims 44-49 including a tamper-evident feature.

51. (Withdrawn) The disposable package of claim 50 wherein said tamper-evident feature is a portion of heat shrunk film surrounding said lid or ring, preferably the heat shrunk film surrounding mating rim portions of the body of the container and its lid or supporting ring to add strength and stability to the connection.

52. (Withdrawn) The disposable package of claim 50 or 51 in which the lid or support ring is at least partially transparent and a tamper-evident feature is a closure of the container visible therethrough.

53. (Withdrawn) The disposable package with consumable contents of any of the claims 44-52 wherein the lid or supporting ring is constructed to provide vision access to the goods within the container.



54. (Withdrawn) The disposable package with consumable contents of any of the claims 44-53 wherein the package is assembled with like packages on a single or multi-tier counter rack, tree display, horizontal or vertical line of hooks or a display rod, useful, for instance, in space-limited stores, counters or kiosks.

55. (Currently Amended) The support claim 1 ~~of any of the claims 1-42~~ assembled with a container to form a package ~~or the package of any of the claims 43-54~~, the package constructed to hang by a said suspender at a tilt angle, said package hung by the suspender from an elevated location relative to a customer such that the tilt angle so situates the side of the container that it faces the customer for notice or reading.

56. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 ~~any of the claims 1-42~~ assembled with a container to form a package ~~or the package of any of the claims 43-54~~, the package constructed to hang by a said suspender at a tilt angle, said package hung by the suspender at a location below eye level relative to a customer, such that the tilt angle tilts the top of the container toward the customer for notice or reading.

57. (Currently Amended) The support ~~or package of~~ claim 55 or 56 ~~any of the preceding claims~~ in which the container is of molded plastic resin or resinous foam with integral sidewalls and bottom or of paper stock such as drinking cup paper stock, for instance, coffee cup paper stock.

58. (Currently Amended) The support ~~or package of~~ claim 55 or 56 ~~any of the foregoing claims~~ wherein a rim member of the lid or the supporting ring has a depending skirt that is heat-shrunk about the rim region of a container to form an exterior seal.

59. (Currently Amended) The support ~~or package of any of~~ claim 1 ~~the foregoing claims 1-57~~ wherein there is a clear plastic film member that extends across the central portion of

the ~~lid or support~~ ring to define a viewing window, the film member having a skirt that depends past, and is heat-sealed in the region of an upper rim formation of the container.

60. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 1 [[or 2, ]]in which the ~~finger~~ suspender (~~FS2~~) in its as-formed position, lies outside of a rim of the ~~lid or~~ supporting ring.

61. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 60 in which the ~~finger~~ suspender has a free-end which defines an opening sized to receive a finger.